

**For Release Immediately: March 1, 2024**

Contact: Patrick Bleck at (847) 295-5200

### STUDENT "MATHLETES" WIN AT LOCAL MATH CONTEST

A team of middle school Mathletes® from Daniel Wright Junior High School in Lincolnshire won the local 2024 MATHCOUNTS Lake County Chapter Competition held on February 17<sup>th</sup> at the College of Lake County in Grayslake. 82 students from across Lake and McHenry counties participated in the Chapter Competition this year.

MATHCOUNTS is a combination math coaching and competition program designed to address the problem of declining math skills among U.S. students. Teachers and students have been preparing for the Chapter Competition since the fall. The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were tested on such topics as probability, statistics, linear algebra and polynomials.

The winning Mathlete® Teams and Individuals received special awards in recognition of their achievement and will now advance to the State Competition, to be held in Oswego, Illinois on March 9, 2024. The top four Individuals at the State Competition will represent the State of Illinois at the RTX 2024 MATHCOUNTS National Competition to be held May 12-13, 2024 in Washington, DC.

Members of the winning Daniel Wright Junior High School Team are Eric Xiong, Andy Chang, Amarjot Singh and Abhijyot Chadha. Five additional Teams scored enough points to advance to State as "Wildcard" Teams. Members of the second place "Wildcard #1" Team are Gavin Deng, Andrew Liu, Tamoghna Gattupalli and Maxim Potkonjak from Woodlawn Middle School in Long Grove. Members of the third place "Wildcard #2" Team are Roy Fang, Neil Chatterjee, Lily-Claire Fan and Chloe Lee from Twin Groves Middle School in Buffalo Grove. Members of the fourth place "Wildcard #3" Team are Debarghya Das, Dylan Shen, Parth Vadia and Shaina Gangrade from Hawthorn Middle School South in Vernon Hills. Members of the fifth place "Wildcard #4" Team are Bowen Li, Evgeniya Goryainova, Sheetansu Bhusan Sahoo and Jessica Jiang from Aptakisic Junior High School in Buffalo Grove. Members of the sixth place "Wildcard #5" Team are Siddharth Mohanty, Gianna Chhadia, Bhuvu Singh and Humza Khan from Barrington Middle School Prairie Campus in Barrington. The top two scoring Individuals were Eric Xiong from Daniel Wright Junior High in Lincolnshire and Debarghya Das from Hawthorn Middle School South in Vernon Hills, respectively. Eric and Debarghya will advance to State as a member of their school's team which also placed. Each Chapter is allowed to send the top 4 scoring Individuals to State that are not on a Team advancing to State. Brenda Hu from Daniel Wright Junior High School, Jeffrey Lin from Woodlawn Middle School, Tristan Wu from Daniel Wright Junior High and Jed Seyto from Barrington Middle School Prairie Campus will advance to State to compete and represent the Lake County Chapter in the Individuals category.

Following the written portion of the competition, the 16 highest scoring competitors participated in a fast-paced, timed verbal Countdown Round. Trophies were awarded to the top 4 finishers. Bowen Li from Aptakisic won first place and Dylan Shen from Hawthorn South placed second, Eric Xiong from Daniel Wright placed third and Debarghya Das from Hawthorn South placed fourth.

The local program is sponsored by the College of Lake County and the Lake Michigan Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. Leadership of the local MATHCOUNTS program is provided by members of the Lake County Chapter of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers.

The National Sponsors of MATHCOUNTS are RTX Company, Northrop Grumman Foundation, U.S. Department of Defense, National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), CNA Foundation, ConocoPhillips, Texas Instruments Incorporated, 3M Foundation, Art of Problem Solving, and NextThought.